

# MONDAY EC CONFERENCE CALL

09/19/16

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## AGENDA:

### Announcement:

Tom: Lek is taking advantage of a terrific opportunity with the World Bank through the SES rotation program. We owe Lek a tremendous debt of gratitude. We all want to thank Lek for everything he has done.

### HHRA Presentation: Assessing the Human Health Risk Posed by Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) in Indoor Environments – Geniece Lehmann

#### Discussion:

- Why is there value in fingerprinting? Dose extrapolation and uncertainty would be huge for non-cancer health effects.
  - We are moving forward with evaluating from dose response data. I suspect we won't end up with specific references. When we look at toxicological data, the mixtures are not completely dissimilar.
- What is the public health message you will convey about PCBs in schools? How will this impact mitigation?
  - This provides more reassurance to schools as they continue to go ahead with mitigation.
- What is the reference value specific to inhalation vs ingestion?
  - The epi data on mortality and cancer is strong but separating out for the pathway is impossible.
- How would you use epi studies to look at the dose response?
  - We will look at human epi studies both general populations and occupational populations.
- How much can you tease out the percentage of exposure from ingestion vs. inhalation with dust on kids' hands?
  - The SHEDS multimedia team in NERL was working on that.
- What is NTP doing and what is their timeline?
  - Bioassays of PCB 11 oral exposure has begun.
  - The PCB inhalation study of mixtures is very complicated. It has not been started yet.

### Project Planning Discussion – Tim Watkins & Bill Russo

#### Discussion:

- Are you looking for something for future plans as opposed to the current plans?

- Yes. Any decisions to change the process would be for future planning cycles.
- How will the project management plan handle 'over the transom' issues?
  - This process should capture these requests and modify project plans on the fly. It will give us more flexibility to adjust to changes.
- What are the next steps for discussion?
  - It would be helpful to get the EC guidance from the workgroup which is looking at the research planning process.
- What is the timing?
  - We need an overall timetable for the 2019 StRAPs.
  - The MC could identify the key business processes.
- Are we considering Project Management training across the board?
  - We don't think ORD needs a cadre of project managers.
- Are we going to have 15 – 20 dedicated project managers?
  - We think that would be too much.
- How much control would these project managers have?
  - This is something that the EC needs to provide guidance on.
- Who has primary responsibility for budgetary questions?
- GAO has criticized IRIS for not employing professional project managers.
- Is this something that can be used for budget formulation?

**ACTION: Schedule a follow up discussion.**

### **Administrator's Senior Staff Meeting – Tom Burke**

- Gina was really excited about her visit to Cincinnati. She raved about the quality of the science and the enthusiasm of our folks.
- OCSPP sent the draft Glyphosate Issue Paper out for peer review. This paper had plenty of input from ORD.
- Joel Beauvais announced a letter was going out to the State Environmental Directors to intensify efforts on nutrient control and nutrient management and potential funding.
- Region 4
  - There is a large sinkhole in Polk County which has caused contaminated wastewater to flow into an aquifer that is Florida's main source of drinking water.
  - Continues to deal with effects of the Colonial Gas Pipeline spill in Alabama that is causing shortages of gas in 6 states.